



NEWS RELEASE

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Football Fans are Listening

SUMMARY: On the heels of last year's spike in car break-ins during football games, EPD's Crime Prevention has amped up education efforts and it's working.

Eugene Police staff have been hard at work to help educate football fans in the number one way to prevent becoming a victim of theft while attending the game. "Don't Leave Anything in Your Car" has been their mantra for the first three home games and it appears that game attendees are listening. During the home opener there were only two reports of thefts from a vehicle where the victim had been attending the game. As of the morning of September 19, there were still no thefts related to the games on September 8 or September 15, which is a good indicator that the programs in place are working amazingly well.

Last year, car break-ins around parking lots on game days near Autzen Stadium jumped significantly to 50 incidents. There were 15 in 2010, and 8 in 2009.

The unit has taken a multi-avenue approach to reaching attendees including various media coverage, pre-game radio public service announcements, flyers at the parking areas utilized for game day traffic, on-site patrols and communication to ticket holders through the assistance of the UO Athletics Department.

Eugene Police hopes that not only does the Ducks' winning streak continue but the fans' winning streak against thieves goes on as well. To ensure success, the team will carry on with their push to educate every fan on ways to protect their property each and every game

The biggest thing fans should remember is if you don't plan on taking items with you into the stadium, then don't bring them with you to the parking lot.###

